

IN THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic method for detecting inflammatory bowel disease and diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease ~~in colon epithelial cells~~ comprising detecting CEP-hTM5 complexes with antibodies against CEP in a colonic tissue wherein the presence of CEP-hTM5 is indicative of the inflammatory bowel disease and diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease.

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the CEP-hTM5 complexes are detected in extracellular space of the tissue.

14. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the CEP-hTM5 complexes are detected in intracellular space of the tissue.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of colonic type arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, hypertrophic osteoarthropathy, clubbing, periostitis and metastatic Crohn's disease.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of erythema nodosum, pyoderma gangrenosum, aphthous ulcers, vesiculopustular eruption and necrotizing vasculitis.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of fissures, fistulas, oral Crohn's disease, drug rashes.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of acrodermatitis enteropathica, vitamin K and vitamin B purpura, disorders of the skin appendages, vitiligo, psoriasis, amyloidosis and epidermolysis bullosa acquisita.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of primary sclerosing cholangitis, bile duct carcinoma, autoimmune chronic active hepatitis, pericholangitis, portal fibrosis and cirrhosis.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease can be selected from the group consisting of uveitis, episcleritis, scleromalacia, corneal ulcers and retinal vascular disease.

22. (Previously Added) The method of claim 12 wherein inflammatory bowel disease includes Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

[Continued on next page.]